

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

**Subject**

Legislative Policy: Veterans Affairs

**Policy  
Number**

M-46

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**Purpose**

To establish the Board of Supervisors' legislative policy regarding services to veterans and their dependents, and to provide guidance to the County's legislative representatives when advocating the County's interests to legislators, other elected officials and policy makers.

**Background**

San Diego County's population of military veterans (over 300,000 according to the 1990 census), the second largest in the State of California, warrants an active role by the County in legislative efforts on behalf of veterans. The County of San Diego intends to assist veterans and their dependents and survivors to obtain benefits from the federal, state and local agencies administering programs for veterans. Additionally, the County intends to provide advocacy to the veterans' community regarding entitlement rights to federal, state and local benefits programs.

"Veterans Affairs" shall be defined as those matters which are related to individuals who, through military service to the United States of America, may be eligible for certain benefits for themselves and their dependents and to the activities of veterans organizations.

**Policy**

The legislative policy of the Board of Supervisors regarding veterans affairs is to:

1. Support legislation that would provide adequate state and federal funding to the County of San Diego on behalf of San Diego's veteran population.
2. Support legislation that would ensure that appropriate benefits and services are available by the state and federal governments to eligible veterans and their dependents.
3. Support legislation that would afford appropriate recognition to veterans and veterans organizations.
4. Oppose legislation that would not protect the psychological, physical and financial interests of the veteran population of San Diego County.
5. Oppose legislation that would impose on the County of San Diego unfunded or under funded mandates.

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**Responsible Departments**

1. Health and Human Services Agency
2. Office of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs

**Sunset Date**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12/31/07.

**References**

Board Action 12/16/86 (#50)  
Board Action 5/5/87 (#55)  
Board Action 2/9/88 (4d)  
Board Action 4/13/99 (42A)  
Board Action 1/13/04 (13)